

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A sliding gate valve, said valve comprised of:
 - a valve body having an inlet and an outlet;
 - a cavity extending longitudinally through at least a portion of said valve body, wherein said cavity is in fluid communication with said inlet and said outlet;
 - a gate slidably moveable within said cavity, said gate having a blocking portion, and a conduit portion, a first post, and a second post, said first post connected to a first end of said gate, and said second post connected to a second end of said gate;
 - a first sealing gasket in contact with a first surface of said cavity and a first surface of said gate[[],];
 - wherein said first end of said gate is on an end opposite said second end of said gate;
 - wherein movement of said first post or said second post operatively moves said slidably movable gate within said cavity;
 - wherein said first post is smaller than said second post;
 - wherein a first portion of said first sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said conduit portion;

wherein a second portion of said first sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said blocking portion; and

wherein a flow of a fluid between said inlet and said outlet is generally transverse to said longitudinal extension of said cavity; and

wherein a passage for said flow of a fluid through said valve is provided when said conduit portion of said gate is aligned with said inlet and said outlet.

2. (original) The valve of claim 1, said valve additionally comprising a groove on said first surface of said gate, wherein said groove is adapted to receive at least a portion of said first sealing gasket.

3. (canceled)

4. (original) The valve of claim 1, wherein said first sealing gasket has a round cross-section.

5. (original) The valve of claim 1, wherein said first sealing gasket is comprised of:
a circular portion; and

at least one straight portion connected to said circular portion.

6. (original) The valve of claim 5, wherein said circular portion extends around said perimeter of said conduit portion of said gate.

7. (original) The valve of claim 5, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of a curved portion connected to said at least one straight portion.

8. (original) The valve of claim 5, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of a substantially semicircular portion connected to said at least one straight portion.

9. (currently amended) The valve of claim 5, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of:

at least one additional straight portion connected to said circular portion; and

a substantially semicircular portion having a first end and a second end[[,]];

wherein said at least one straight portion is tangential to said circular portion at said connection to said circular portion;

wherein said at least one additional straight portion is tangential to said circular portion at said connection to said circular portion;

wherein said at least one straight portion is parallel to said at least one additional straight portion; and

wherein said first end of said substantially semicircular portion is connected to an end of said at least one straight portion; and

wherein said second end of said substantially semicircular portion is connected to an end of said at least one additional straight portion.

10-18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) The valve of claim 1828, wherein said first opening of said valve body is smaller than said second opening in said valve body such that said

second post of said gate will not have a complementary fit with said ~~second~~first opening.

20-21. (canceled)

22. (new) A sliding gate valve, said valve comprised of:

 a valve body having an inlet and an outlet;

 a cavity extending longitudinally through at least a portion of said valve body,

 wherein said cavity is in fluid communication with said inlet and said outlet;

 a gate slidably moveable within said cavity, said gate having a blocking portion, a conduit portion, a first post, and a second post, said first post connected to a first end of said gate, and said second post connected to a second end of said gate;

 a first sealing gasket in contact with a first surface of said cavity and a first surface of said gate;

 wherein said first end of said gate is on an end opposite said second end of said gate;

 wherein movement of said first post or said second post operatively moves said slidably movable gate within said cavity;

 wherein said first post has a different cross-sectional shape than said second post;

 wherein a first portion of said first sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said conduit portion;

wherein a second portion of said first sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said blocking portion;

wherein a flow of a fluid between said inlet and said outlet is generally transverse to said longitudinal extension of said cavity; and

wherein a passage for said flow of a fluid through said valve is provided when said conduit portion of said gate is aligned with said inlet and said outlet.

23. (new) The valve of claim 22, said valve additionally comprising a groove on said first surface of said gate, wherein said groove is adapted to receive at least a portion of said first sealing gasket.

24. (new) The valve of claim 22, wherein said first sealing gasket is comprised of:

a circular portion; and

at least one straight portion connected to said circular portion.

25. (new) The valve of claim 24, wherein said circular portion extends around said perimeter of said conduit portion of said gate.

26. (new) The valve of claim 24, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of a curved portion connected to said at least one straight portion.

27. (new) The valve of claim 24, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of a substantially semicircular portion connected to said at least one straight portion.

28. (new) A sliding gate valve, said valve comprised of:

a valve body having an inlet, an outlet, a first opening, and a second opening;

a cavity extending longitudinally through at least a portion of said valve body, wherein said cavity is in fluid communication with said inlet and said outlet;

a gate slidably moveable within said cavity, said gate having a blocking portion, a conduit portion, a first post, and a second post, said first post connected to a first end of said gate, and said second post connected to a second end of said gate;

a first sealing gasket in contact with a first surface of said cavity and a first surface of said gate;

wherein said first opening provides a complementary fit for said first post;

wherein said second opening provides a complementary fit for said second post;

wherein said first end of said gate is on an end opposite said second end of said gate;

wherein movement of said first post or said second post operatively moves said slidably movable gate within said cavity;

wherein a first portion of said first sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said conduit portion;

wherein a second portion of said first sealing gasket extends around a perimeter of said blocking portion;

wherein a flow of a fluid between said inlet and said outlet is generally transverse to said longitudinal extension of said cavity; and

wherein a passage for said flow of a fluid through said valve is provided when said conduit portion of said gate is aligned with said inlet and said outlet.

App. No. 10/802,302
Amendment mailed September 27, 2005
Re: Office Action mailed June 27, 2005

29. (new) The valve of claim 28, wherein said first sealing gasket is comprised of:

a circular portion; and

at least one straight portion connected to said circular portion.

30. (new) The valve of claim 29, wherein said circular portion extends around said perimeter of said conduit portion of said gate.

31. (new) The valve of claim 29, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of a curved portion connected to said at least one straight portion.

32. (new) The valve of claim 29, wherein said first sealing gasket is additionally comprised of a substantially semicircular portion connected to said at least one straight portion.